

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-17 Cancelled

18. (Original) In a computer system capable of executing instructions and generating images on a display, a mouse having a palm rest area and a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

generating at least one of five mouse input values, each mouse input value capable of having one of only two states;

executing an application that displays document pages in a temporally serial manner on a display;

identifying when a first mouse input value is in a first state; and

causing the application to display a previously displayed document page based in part on the first mouse input value being in the first state regardless of the position of a cursor on the display.

19. (Original) The mouse and computer-readable medium of claim 18 further comprising further computer-executable instructions for performing the step of identifying when the first mouse input value is in a second state after identifying when the first mouse input value was in the first state and wherein causing the application to display a previous document page is based on the first mouse input value being in a first state and then in a second state.

20. (Original) The mouse and computer-readable medium of claim 18 wherein the first mouse input value represents the state of a switch and the first state indicates that the switch is closed.

21. (Original) The mouse and computer-readable medium of claim 19 wherein the first mouse input value represents the state of a switch and the second state indicates that the switch is open.

22. (Original) The mouse and computer-readable medium of claim 18 wherein each of the five mouse input values represents the state of a separate switch.

23. (Original) The mouse and computer-readable medium of claim 18 having further computer-executable instructions for performing further steps comprising:

generating a second mouse input value;
identifying when the second mouse input value is in the first state; and
causing the application to replace a currently displayed document page with a second previously displayed document page based in part on the second mouse input value being in the first state, the second previously displayed document page originally displayed after a currently displayed document page.

24. (Original) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure generated by a mouse, the data structure comprising:

a first eight-bit byte having a first bit indicative of the state of a first button of the mouse, a second bit indicative of the state of a second button of the mouse, a third bit indicative of the state of a third button of the mouse, a fourth bit set to one, a fifth bit indicative of the direction of movement of the mouse along a first line, a sixth

bit indicative of the direction of movement of the mouse along a second line perpendicular to the first line, a seventh bit indicative of an overflow condition related to the distance the mouse moved along the first line, and an eighth bit indicative of an overflow condition related to the distance the mouse moved along the second line;

a second eight-bit byte that together with the fifth bit of the first eight-bit byte represents the direction and distance the mouse moved along the first line, the second eight-bit byte containing all ones when the seventh bit of the first eight-bit byte is one and the fifth bit of first eight-bit byte is zero;

a third eight-bit byte that together with the sixth bit of the first eight-bit byte represents the distance the mouse moved along the second line, the third eight-bit byte containing all ones when the eighth bit of the first eight-bit byte is one and the sixth bit of first eight-bit byte is zero; and

a fourth eight-bit byte comprising first, second, third and fourth bits together representing an amount and a direction of angular rotation of a wheel on the mouse, a fifth bit representing the state of a fourth button on the mouse, and a sixth bit representing the state of a fifth button on the mouse.

25. (Original) A method in a computer system having a mouse and a mouse driver, the method comprising steps of:

the mouse driver receiving a mouse identification from

the mouse;
the mouse driver determining if the mouse has at least four buttons based on the mouse identification;
the mouse driver passing at least one command to the mouse to activate a fourth button of the four buttons; and
the mouse activating the fourth button based on the at least one command.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the at least one command comprises a plurality of functional commands, each functional command when sent alone having a function separate from activating the fourth button.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25 further comprising steps of:
the mouse driver determining if the mouse has a wheel based on the mouse identification;
the mouse driver passing at least one command to the mouse to activate the wheel; and
the mouse activating the wheel.

28. (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the mouse has at least five buttons and wherein based on the at least one command the mouse activates at least a fourth button and a fifth button.

29. (Original) A mouse for a computer system comprising:
a movement sensor, capable of detecting movement of the mouse across a surface and of generating a signal based on the detected movement;
a casing, at least partially containing the movement sensor and providing a palm contact area;
three depressible top surfaces located along a top portion of the casing; and

at least two active thumb button actuators, at least partially contained by the casing and exposed along a side of the casing, each thumb button actuator capable of generating an electrical signal that exclusively indicates whether the actuator is being pressed.

30. (Original) The mouse of claim 29 wherein the two active thumb button actuators are at least partially aligned vertically in the mouse.

31. (Original) The mouse of claim 30 wherein the two active thumb button actuators are at least partially aligned horizontally in the mouse.

32. (Original) The mouse of claim 29 further comprising a primary button capable of being actuated by a user's index finger when the user's palm is in contact with the casing.

33. (Original) The mouse of claim 32 further comprising a secondary button capable of being actuated by a user's middle finger when the user's palm is in contact with the casing.

34. (Original) The mouse of claim 33 further comprising a wheel capable of being rotated by the user's index finger when the user's palm is in contact with the casing.

35. (Original) The mouse of claim 34 wherein the wheel is depressible and is capable of actuating a switch when depressed.

36. (New) A computer mouse for use with a computer, the computer running software, said mouse comprising:

a housing; and

at least one user depressible surface exposed on the housing for communicating a first command signal to the computer, the first command signal associated with a paging back function of the software, whereby depression of the user depressible surface causes the software to page backward even when a displayed cursor is not positioned over a back button displayed by the software.

37. (New) The computer mouse of claim 36 further comprising a second user depressible surface for communicating a second command signal to the computer, the second command signal associated with a paging forward function of the software, whereby depression of the second user depressible surface causes the software to page forward even when the displayed cursor is not positioned over a forward button displayed by the software.

38. (New) The computer mouse of claim 36 wherein the user depressible surface is located on a side of the housing.

39. (New) The computer mouse of claim 37 wherein the user depressible surfaces are located on a side of the housing.

40. (New) A computer mouse including a housing, electronic circuitry located within the housing, a mouse cursor position control arrangement coupled to the electronic circuitry for allowing a user to control the mouse cursor position on a computer monitor, the electronic circuitry in communication with devices for communicating output control signals from the electronic circuitry to a computer, a plurality of finger-depressible buttons exposed on the housing and interfacing with switches, the switches electrically coupled with the electronic circuitry for allowing

user selection of output control signals communicated to the computer, wherein:

at least one of the buttons is associated with a page-back function such that depression of the at least one button causes software to receive a page-back message that initiates a page-back function executed by the software; and
the software receiving the page-back message without the mouse cursor being located on a back button displayed on the monitor.

41. (New) The computer mouse of claim 40 wherein:

at least one of the buttons is associated with a page-forward function such that depression of the at least one button causes software to receive a page-forward message that initiates a page-forward function executed by the software; and
the software receiving the page-forward message without the mouse cursor being located on a forward button displayed on the monitor.

42. (New) A method of using a computer mouse, the mouse having a cursor position control arrangement for controlling a cursor position on a display, and user-activatable buttons, wherein the method comprises:

activating one of the buttons to send a page-back signal to software, regardless of the cursor position on the display, for execution of a page-back function.

43. (New) The method of using a computer mouse of claim 42 wherein the method further comprises activating one of the buttons to send a page-forward signal to software, regardless of

the cursor position on the display, for execution of a page-forward function.

44. (New) A method of operating software using a computer mouse, the mouse having a cursor position control arrangement for controlling a cursor position on a display, and user activatable buttons, wherein the method comprises:

depressing at least one of the buttons to send a page-back signal to software for execution of a page-back function regardless of the cursor position on the display.

45. (New) The method of claim 44 further comprising:

depressing at least one of the buttons to send a page-forward signal to software for execution of a page-forward function regardless of the cursor position on the display.